

A system for processing a product includes a sequence of process steps, at least one machine in each of the process steps, and a plurality of lots in the queue of the first machine. Each lot includes at least one unit of the product, a memory, and a first transmitter-receiver operatively associated with the memory. The memory identifies at least one of a pair including the lot, a unit of product. The system also includes a second transmitter-receiver device and a control operatively associated the second transmitter receiver device and the first machine to generate signals causing the second transmitter-receiver device to communicate with the first transmitter-receiver device and the memory in each of the lots to provide the memory with the time required for the first machine to process the lot.